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 TI - NUMBER READING AND MATCHING DEVICE
 IN - KURODA ETSUJI
 PA - MITSUBISHI ELECTRIC CORP
 IC - G08G1/017 ; G02B7/08 ; G03B13/36 ; G03B7/093 ; G03B15/05 ; G08G1/04

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TI - Vehicle reading/comparison device for use in parking areas, adjusts camera lens based on measured distance of vehicle
 PR - JP19990351510 19991210
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 PA - (MITQ) MITSUBISHI ELECTRIC CORP
 IC - G02B7/08 ; G02B7/28 ; G03B7/093 ; G03B13/36 ; G03B15/05 ; G08G1/017 ; G08G1/04
 AB - JP2001167379 NOVELTY - A rangefinder (19) measures the distance of the vehicles. A lens control unit (22) adjusts the lens of a camera (20) based on the measured distance. The camera photographs the number plate of vehicle. Number recognition unit (14) detects the number of photographed number plate. A controller (15) stores the number recognition result in a memory (23) and a comparator (13) compares recognition result with registered number plate information of vehicle and the result is displayed.
 - USE - In parking areas for detecting the vehicle numbers of both parked and moving vehicles.
 - ADVANTAGE - Even when the distance of the vehicles is varying, the number reading/comparison device can recognize the number of parked vehicles by adjusting the camera lens.
 - DESCRIPTION OF DRAWING(S) - The figure shows the block diagram of number reading/comparison device. (Drawing includes non-English language text).
 - Comparator 13
 - Number recognition unit 14
 - Controller 15
 - Rangefinder 19
 - Camera 20
 - Lens control unit 22
 - Memory 23
 - (Dwg.2/12)
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 AB - PROBLEM TO BE SOLVED: To obtain a number reading and matching device which can recognize a license number even when the distance to the vehicle is not constant and recognize the license number of a parked vehicle.

- SOLUTION: A picture is taken so that the license plate part of the object vehicle is put in the image pickup field of a camera. A distance measurement part measures the distance to the license plate part. A lens control part controls the zooming and focusing of a lens according to the measured distance and automatically photographs video by the camera again. The photographed video is inputted to a license number recognition part to detect the plate and the characters on the plate, and the results are sent out to a number storage part and also sent out to a license plate matching part, which collates them with previously registered vehicle numbers, so that the matching result is displayed.
- G08G1/017 ;G02B7/08 ;G02B7/28 ;G03B13/36 ;G03B7/093 ;G03B15/05 ;G08G1/04